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May 21, 2008

Via ECF and Regular Mail
Honorable Thomas P. Griesa
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10007

Re: United States v. Joseph Hartline
07 Cr. 500

Dear Judge Griesa:

I represent Mr. Joseph Hartline on the above-referenced matter which is presently scheduled for a status conference before Your Honor on Tuesday, May 27, 2008. Mr. Hartline was arraigned on this Indictment before Magistrate Judge Eaton on June 22, 2007. At that time he was released on a \$15,000.00 PRB with travel restrictions and the surrender of travel documents. He continues to be under the supervision of Pretrial Services in Ohio where he resides.

I write the Court to respectfully request that Mr. Hartline's presence be excused for the May 27th status conference. If that conference date is changed by the Court, as I understand it may, then my request is that Mr. Hartline's presence be excused for that date. It is very time consuming and expensive for him to have to travel to New York City from Ohio in order to appear in court. He is presently employed and receiving drug counseling through the assistance of Pretrial Services. To leave Ohio and travel to New York City and back would require him to take a few days off from work as well as the counseling that is helping him so much. I have spoken with AUSA Jenna M. Dabbs and she consents to this request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully

Kenneth A. Paul

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cc: AUSA Jenna M. Dabbs (Via ECF)